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OF THE AIR FORCE**

AIR FORCE INSTRUCTION 16-606

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Operations Support

FOREIGN CLEARANCE PROGRAM



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This Instruction implements AFD 16-6, *International Arms Control and Nonproliferation Agreements*, and *The DoD Foreign Clearance Program (FCP)*. It provides guidance for the Department of Defense (DoD) FCP and applicability and availability guidance for the DoD Foreign Clearance Guide (FCG). This Instruction applies to all military and civilian personnel in the United States Air Force, Air Force Reserve (AFR), and Air National Guard (ANG). It also applies to USAF personnel assigned to international staffs or organizations and personnel traveling under USAF sponsorship, except for members and employees of Congress. This publication may be supplemented at any level, but all direct supplements must be routed to the Office of Primary Responsibility (OPR) of this publication for coordination prior to certification and approval. Refer recommended changes and questions about this publication to the OPR using the AF Form 847, *Recommendation for Change of Publication*; route AF Form 847 from the field through the appropriate functional chain of command. The authorities to waive wing/unit level requirements in this publication are identified with a Tier ("T-0") number following the compliance statement. See AFI 33-360, *Publications and Forms Management*, for a description of the authorities associated with the Tier numbers. Submit requests for waivers through the chain of command to the appropriate Tier waiver approval authority. Ensure that all records created as a result of processes prescribed in this publication are maintained in accordance with Air Force Manual (AFMAN) 33-363, *Management of Records*, and disposed of in accordance with Air Force Records Information Management System (AFRIMS) <https://www.my.af.mil/afrims/afrims/afrims/rims.cfm>

SUMMARY OF CHANGES

This revision includes updated office titles and symbols to reflect the October 2014 HAF reorganization and some administrative changes. References to the Deputy Chief of Staff, Operations, Plans, and Requirement (AF/A3/5) were changed to the Assistant Chief of Staff, Strategic Deterrence and Nuclear Integration (AF/A10). Similarly, references to the Strategic Plans and Policy Division (AF/A5XP) were changed to the Strategic Stability and CWMD Division (AF/A10-S). It also implements SAF/AA guidance resulting from the recent Compliance Statement Review.

1. Overview.

1.1. The DoD FCG describes the information required and procedures used by DoD units and personnel to obtain permission to enter or overfly foreign territories. It lists other clearance requirements established by international and US Government agencies that coordinate and regulate international travel as well as DoD policies and procedures relating to travel or transit of aircraft, aircrews, cargo, and personnel into or through the territory of a foreign country.

1.2. The DoD FCG applies to the following

1.2.1. USAF Components.

1.2.2. USAF personnel assigned to international staffs or organizations.

1.2.3. Personnel traveling under USAF sponsorship, except for members and employees of Congress.

1.2.4. All AF offices that plan, brief, or process and clear:

1.2.4.1. *Aircraft* entering or overflying foreign nations and aircraft reentering the continental United States (CONUS).

1.2.4.2. *Cargo* for transport by DoD aircraft operating between foreign areas.

1.2.4.3. *Personnel* for official temporary duty travel between foreign areas or US controlled areas outside the CONUS, and leave travel.

2. Accessibility.

2.1. DoD FCG.

2.1.1. The unclassified publication is available on the NIPRNet at <https://www.fcg.pentagon.mil>.

2.1.2. The publication is also available on the SIPRNet at <https://www.fcg.pentagon.smil.mil>.

2.1.3. The Classified Supplement is available on the SIPRNet at <https://www.fcg.pentagon.smil.mil/fcgssupplement/classified-supplement.html>.

2.2. The Aircraft and Personnel Automated Clearance System (APACS) is the web-based application for requesting approval for DoD-sponsored overseas travel and aircraft diplomatic clearances to or through foreign territory. Alternate clearance processes may be used with the concurrence of the aircraft requestor, aircraft approver, and AF/A10-S. APACS is located:

2.2.1. The unclassified system is available on the NIPRNet at <https://apacs.dtic.mil>.

2.2.2. The classified system is available on the SIPRNet at <https://apacs.dtic.smil.mil>.

3. Responsibilities.

3.1. The Chief, Strategic Stability and CWMD Policy Division (AF/A10-S), through the Assistant Chief of Staff, Strategic Deterrence and Nuclear Integration (AF/A10), shall:

3.1.1. Manage all aspects of the DoD Foreign Clearance Program for the Air Force and for the SECAF, the DoD Executive Agent for the DoD FCP.

3.1.2. Coordinate with Major Commands and applicable Headquarters Air Force offices to develop Air Force positions on DoD FCP proposals and negotiating positions, and to not interfere with current informal agreements with host nations. Provide Air Force input into developing DoD negotiating positions.

3.1.3. Inform and advise senior Air Force leadership on DoD FCP issues.

3.1.4. Answer congressional requests about DoD FCP impacts on Air Force operations.

3.1.5. Provide guidance on interpreting international agreements pertaining to the DoD FCP and establish plans and procedures for implementing and ensuring compliance with such agreements, both formal and informal.

3.1.6. Represent the Air Force, as required, on appropriate DoD working groups.

3.1.7. Manage implementation of overall education and training for Foreign Clearance Program activities within the Air Force.

3.1.8. Provide guidance on implementation and compliance with Air Force Policy regarding payment of aviation-related fees levied against Air Force missions operating over or within foreign territories.

3.1.9. Provide guidance on implementation and compliance with international sovereignty policy with respect to USAF aircraft transiting international airspace, foreign territorial airspace or landing in a foreign territory.

3.2. Major Command (MAJCOM) Commanders will:

3.2.1. Establish a DoD FCP point of contact to deal specifically with issues applicable to each MAJCOM.

3.2.2. Ensure that the MAJCOM, in concert with AF/A10-S, educates those personnel directly involved with DoD FCP activities and raises awareness of foreign clearance throughout the command.

3.2.3. Request AF/A10-S guidance, as appropriate, when any foreign clearance concerns arise.

3.3. The General Counsel of the Air Force (SAF/GC) is responsible, within the Department of the Air Force, for legal interpretation of foreign clearance agreements as they pertain to the DoD FCP. SAF/GC shall provide advice and assistance for negotiation of, implementation of, and compliance with, foreign clearance agreements affecting global access and the implementation of the DoD FCP.

3.4. All Air Force commanders and personnel will:

3.4.1. Refer questions related to international aircraft sovereignty, access to foreign airspace, and foreign clearance agreements pertaining to the DoD FCP to AF/A10-S.

3.4.2. Implement relevant agreement provisions and ensure their programs/activities are in full compliance with the agreements and with foreign clearance policy. (T-0).

3.4.3. Ensure that the implementation of foreign clearance agreements is carried out so as to avoid the compromise of classified information. (T-0).

GARRETT HARENCAK, Maj Gen, USAF
ACS, Strategic Deterrence & Nuclear Integration

Attachment 1**GLOSSARY OF REFERENCES AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION*****References***

DoDD 4500.54E, *DoD Foreign Clearance Program (FCP)*, December 28, 2009

AFPD 16-6, *International Arms Control and Nonproliferation Agreements, and The DoD Foreign Clearance Program*, 29 December 2010, certified current, 20 March 2012

Adopted Forms

AF Form 847, *Recommendation for Change of Publication*

Abbreviations and Acronyms

AFI—Air Force Instruction

AFMAN—Air Force Manual

AFRC—Air Force Reserve Command

AFRIMS—Air Force Records Information Management System

AFPD—Air Force Policy Directive

ANG—Air National Guard

APACS—Aircraft and Personnel Automated Clearance System

CONUS—Continental United States

CWMD—Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction

DoD—Department of Defense

DoDD—Department of Defense Directive

FCG—Department of Defense Foreign Clearance Guide

FCP—Foreign Clearance Program

GC—General Counsel

HQ USAF—Headquarters United States Air Force

MAJCOM—Major Command

NIPRNet—Non-Secure Internet Protocol Router Network

OPR—Office of Primary Responsibility

RDS—Records Disposition Schedule

SAF—Secretary of the Air Force

SIPRNet—Secret Internet Protocol Router Network

US—United States

USAF—United States Air Force